

11—9.10(17A,8A) Ruling. An order granting or denying a waiver or variance shall be in writing and shall contain a reference to the particular person and rule or portion thereof to which the order pertains, a statement of the relevant facts and reasons upon which the action is based, and a description of the precise scope (including any conditions) and duration of the waiver if one is issued.

9.10(1) Director discretion. The final decision on whether the circumstances justify the granting of a waiver shall be made at the sole discretion of the director, upon consideration of all relevant factors. Each petition for waiver shall be evaluated by the director based on the unique, individual circumstances set out in the petition.

9.10(2) Burden of persuasion. If the petition for waiver is based on a request pursuant to subrule 9.4(1), the burden of persuasion rests with the petitioner to demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the director should exercise discretion to grant a waiver from a department rule.

9.10(3) Narrowly tailored exception. A waiver, if granted, shall provide the narrowest exception possible to the provisions of a rule.

9.10(4) Administrative deadlines. When the rule from which a waiver or variance is sought establishes administrative deadlines, the director shall balance the special individual circumstances of the petitioner with the overall goal of uniform treatment of all affected persons.

9.10(5) Conditions. The director may place any condition on the waiver that the director finds desirable to protect the public health, safety, and welfare or other such reasonable conditions as are appropriate to achieve the objectives of the particular rule in question through alternative means.

9.10(6) Time period of waiver. A waiver shall not be permanent unless the petitioner can show that a temporary waiver would be impracticable. If a temporary waiver is granted, there is no automatic right to renewal. At the sole discretion of the director, a waiver may be renewed if the director finds that grounds for a waiver continue to exist.

9.10(7) Time for ruling. The director shall grant or deny a petition for a waiver or variance as soon as practicable but, in any event, shall do so within 120 days of its receipt, unless the petitioner agrees to a later date or the department, specifying good cause, extends this time period with respect to a particular petition for an additional 30 days. However, if a petition is filed in an appeal, the director shall grant or deny the petition no later than the time at which the final decision in that appeal is issued.

9.10(8) When deemed denied. Failure of the director to grant or deny a petition within the required time period shall be deemed a denial of that petition by the director. However, the director shall remain responsible for issuing an order denying a waiver.

9.10(9) Service of order. Within seven days of its issuance, any order issued under this chapter shall be transmitted to the petitioner or the person to whom the order pertains, and to any other person entitled to such notice by any provision of law.